

MARCH 05, 2023 - OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MONTHLY CENSUS.

ROUTES: East Side, West Side, Fox Unit, and Western Prairies in the morning; Auto Tour Area (except where closed for eagle nesting) and Boss Unit in the afternoon.

TIME: 7:45am - 12:20pm; 1:25pm - 4:55pm TEMP.: 35F ~ 46F

COND.: Cool early, sunny and breezy; mostly sunny to sunny all day; winds light and variable from west; all water open, no snow cover; all fields wet and flooded from heavy rains on 03/03.

OBS. EAST: Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht. OBS. FOX UNIT: Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht.

OBS. WEST: Mary Applegate, Katie Clink, Donna Kuhn, David & Kim Myles, George Novosel, James O'Brien, Chris Pierce, Tony Szilagye. OBS. WEST PRAIRIES: Douglas W. Vogus.

OBS. BOSS UNIT: George Novosel. OBS. AFTERNOON: Bob Bartolotta, Claire Johnson, Donna Kuhn, Jim Reyda, Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 8 SPECIES, 38 TOTAL MAMMALS. (Recorded since 04/2002)

1. Virginia Opossum - 1 (Third March Record on Census)
2. Eastern Cottontail - 2
3. Woodchuck - 2 (Fourth March Record on Census)
4. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 24
5. Meadow Vole - 1
6. Common Muskrat - 5
7. Common Raccoon - 1
8. Mink - 2

II. BIRDS: 75 SPECIES, 13,163 TOTAL BIRDS. (Recorded since 03/1969)

1. Greater White-fronted Goose - 4 (NW end of MS 5 - observed by B. Bartolotta, C. Johnson, D. Kuhn, J. Reyda, & D.W. Vogus)
2. Canada Goose - 567
3. Trumpeter Swan - 159 (one with yellow neckband "1A2" recorded since July 2008)
4. Tundra Swan - 1,219
5. Wood Duck - 16
6. Northern Shoveler - 66
7. Gadwall - 417
8. American Wigeon - 10
9. American Black Duck - 16
10. Mallard - 423
11. Northern Pintail - 712
12. Green-winged Teal - 26
13. Redhead - 14
14. Ring-necked Duck - 426
15. Greater Scaup - 2
16. Lesser Scaup - 5,017
17. Bufflehead - 70
18. Common Goldeneye - 11
19. Hooded Merganser - 2
20. Common Merganser - 171
21. Red-breasted Merganser - 80
22. Ring-necked Pheasant - 1 (m) (found by D. Kuhn)
23. Pied-billed Grebe - 1
24. Horned Grebe - 1 (J. Reyda and A. & B. Schlecht)
25. Mourning Dove - 15
26. American Coot - 11
27. Sandhill Crane - 64
28. Killdeer - 67
29. Greater Yellowlegs - 1 (Henry Marsh - Second Record on March Census)

30. Lesser Yellowlegs - 1 (Henry Marsh - Third Record on March Census)
31. Ring-billed Gull - 298
32. Herring Gull - 62
33. Double-crested Cormorant - 1 (Third Record on March Census)
34. Great Blue Heron - 14
35. Turkey Vulture - 2 (minor raptor migration over Stange Rd. platform observed by D.W. Vogus from 10:45am-11:50am)
36. Northern Harrier - 5
37. Cooper's Hawk - 1
38. Bald Eagle - 33 (27m,6 immature) (Raptor Watch over Stange Rd. platform had 2 vultures,10 eagles, 2 Red-shouldered's & 6 Red-tailed's passing thru & "kettling" at once)
39. Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
40. Red-tailed Hawk - 16
41. Eastern Screech-Owl - 2 (two gray morphs in Wood Duck box observed by D. & K. Myles, et. al.)
42. Great Horned Owl - 6
43. Long-eared Owl - 1 (heard calling by D. & K. Myles, et. al. at west end of South Woods)
44. Red-headed Woodpecker - 9 (S. Woods & N. Woods by D. & K. Myles's Group)
45. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 10
46. Downy Woodpecker - 17
47. Hairy Woodpecker - 1
48. Northern Flicker - 6
49. Pileated Woodpecker - 1 (calling) (First March Record on Census - Tied Census High from 05/1999, 09/2015, 12/2020, 01/2021, 02/2021 & 04/2021)
50. American Kestrel - 2
51. Blue Jay - 30
52. American Crow - 8
53. Black-capped Chickadee - 9
54. Tufted Titmouse - 5
55. Horned Lark - 7 (6 along Grimm Prairie/Krause Rd. & 1 at Fox Unit)
56. White-breasted Nuthatch - 7
57. Winter Wren - 1
58. Carolina Wren - 5
59. European Starling - 379
60. Eastern Bluebird - 1 (fly-over at Stange Prairie)
61. American Robin - 148 (minor influx - most over Grimm Prairie)
62. House Sparrow - 11
63. American Goldfinch - 4
64. Lapland Longspur - 60 (all as fly-overs at Grimm Prairie in small flocks of 17, 16, 13, 9, & 5 birds - headed north)
65. American Tree Sparrow - 127
66. White-throated Sparrow - 1
67. Savannah Sparrow - 2 (along Krause Rd. found by D. Kuhn)
68. Song Sparrow - 100
69. Swamp Sparrow - 1
70. Eastern Meadowlark - 5 (3 at Grimm Prairie & 2 along Krause Rd.)
71. Red-winged Blackbird - 1,654
72. Brown-headed Cowbird - 43
73. Rusty Blackbird - 161
74. Common Grackle - 227
75. Northern Cardinal - 39

?? Unidentified Swan Species - 7

?? Unidentified Duck Species - 42

Compiled by: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.